

Thomas H. Marshall to George Washington, March 12, 1770, Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.

FROM THOMAS H. MARSHALL, ESQ.

MARYLAND, the 12th. March 1770.

SIR

Your's of the 10th. Inst. I. Recd. and have now before me, tho' was not at home at the time it was brought to my House. Am Verry sorry any Act of Mine should give the Least Surprize, or Concern, to any Gentn. Whatever, as it was not, or is, the Least of my Intentions so to do; As to any Testimony to make it appear there was no misapprehension, in Regard to the Proposals Made and agre'd to between us, Relative to the Slipes of Land, I have nothing more to say, than I am Possitive it was not my Intention, to make such an agreement as you mention, tho' make not the Least Doubt But you apprehended it in that light. I never had the least Doubt or Suspetion, that you would order the least Incroachment, on mine or any other Persons Property (Designedly) which was the Reason I Imputed the timber cut down on my Land, was owing to a Misapprehension, in our Bargain—I have not forgot (I think) any Material Part of the Conversation that Passed between us, Relative to the Land, Nor never denyed any Part to my knowledge. The End that a cash Price was agreed to (as I took it) was upon its being mentioned there was a possibillity of Mr. Alexander's never haveing it in his Power to Convey the Land in Maryland, I then said, should that be the case, I would then Receive a Certain Price in

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Cash pr. Acct. for them slipes, this was my Sense and Meaning of the Matter, and thought I was understood so—&c.

You signify that my Conuversation with Mr. Alexander and Manly is a Proof that I Looked on them slipes of Land to be sold to you, for a Certain sum of Cash. Beleeve me Sir, you know me not, If you think I would alter in the Least, from any Bargain I had made, (agreable to my Sense and Meaning) had it have been a Matter of much graver Consequence to me, than that now Between us,—As to the Conversation I had with Mr. Manly, If I Remember right was nearly this, At Poseys sale Manly was mentioning sumthing to me in Regard to the Slipe of Land of mine adjoining his plantation, that he would lther Rent or Purchase, I Replyed that I was on a Bargain for the same with Col: Washington, or I might Possabilly have said I had bargained for it, As I at that time might not have had any Doubt but that the same Quantity of Land would be given up to me in Maryland, convenient to my Plantation, &c.

As to what Mr. Alexander informed you, of his answer to my Letr. to him, said Answer will shew whether it is agreable to what you mention, And as to the Conversation Mr. Alexander said Passed Between us when he last saw me, I must absolutely Deny. As No such Conversation Ever Passed between me and the Tenant, Consequently could not (in Truth) pass between Mr. Alexander and me; However on the Whole I Declare I looked on our Agreement as I have already Expressed, That is, on the same Quantity of Land being given into my Possession, Adjoining my Plantation in Maryland (the Ruf Draft Mr Alexander has will shew the forme) I was then to give you up them slipes of Land, Between the Road and River, and in case Mr. Alexander should not be able (Hearafter) to make a good Right to the Land in Maryland, so as to make convey to me, then and in such Case, I was to Receive a Certain Price of you pr Acct for them Slipes of Land above mentioned, this I was Ready to Comply with; My Letr. to Mr Alexander will shew the application I made to him. Pressing him to let me be on sum Sertenty, the Answer to which I have already given you; I never had the least Doubt but Mr Washington could at any time Pay a much Larger sum than them Slipes of Land would have cum to had I agreed for

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Cash, but as I did not nor now do Look on our agreement in that Light, That Matter never once Entered my thoughts.

I am your Verry Hble servt. THOS. HAN. MARSHALL